

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/073,842

Examiner

KIEU-OANH BUI

Applicant(s)

RODRIGUEZ ET AL.

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 06/11/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 105,108-111,113-115,122 and 125-139.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



**KIEU-OANH BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. David Rodack on August 16, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 128, on page 7, line 11, please insert:

“receiving a first advertisement and a second advertisement by the STT from a remote server after the STT receives the first and second viewer inputs;
storing the first and second advertisements in the STT;
receiving at a future time, a television program by a tuner in the STT;
outputting the television program to the television by the STT; and
outputting the stored first and second advertisement to the television by the STT during an interruption in the presentation of the television program being output by the STT.”



KIEU-OANH BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Remark

1. Claims 106, 112, 123 and 124 have been cancelled, and claims 105, 108-111, 113-115, 122, and 125-139 are pending for reconsideration.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 105, 108-111, 113-115, 122, and 125-139 have been allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior arts of record issued to Ellis, LaRocca, and Mathai either alone or combine fails to teach or suggest each and every feature of claims 105 and 128 for a method implemented by a television set-top terminal (STT) configured to provide television programs and a viewer's preference for advertisement categories, the method comprising steps "for storing the first and second advertisements in the STT; receiving at a future time, a television program by a tuner in the STT; outputting the television program to the television by the STT; and outputting the stored first and second advertisements to the television by the STT during an interruption in the presentation of the television program being output by the STT"; and steps of "responsive to receiving the plurality of viewer inputs, outputting to the television by the STT a plurality of commercials respectively corresponding to at least one of the viewer-selected advertisement categories"; as for claim 122 with steps for "store the advertisement data components in the memory of the STT, and output the respective advertisements to the television during intermittent future interruptions of the presentation of television programs not yet received at the STT output to the television at a future time".

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to PTO New Central Fax number:

(571) 273-8300, (for Technology Center 2600 only)

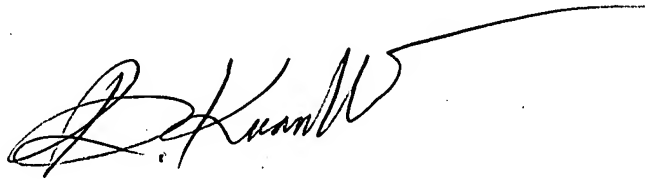
*Hand deliveries must be made to Customer Service Window,
Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.*

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to "Krista" Kieu-Oanh Bui whose telephone number is (571) 272-7291. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30 AM to 7:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Miller, can be reached at (571) 272-7353.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kieu-Oanh Bui', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Kieu-Oanh Bui
Primary Examiner
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KB

August 17, 2007